

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

530 7 1. (Previously Presented) A method of character-recognizing at least one character object in a digitized representation of an image, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving the digitized representation of the image, the representation having a first resolution;

creating a reduced-resolution version of the image from the digitized representation of the image, the reduced-resolution version of the image having a second resolution lower than the first resolution;

identifying at least one character-recognition parameter for character-recognition processing using the reduced resolution version of the image; and

character-recognizing the at least one character object represented in the digitized representation of the image having the first resolution, based on the at least one character-recognition parameter.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said identifying step comprises the steps of:

providing a plurality of sets of at least one parameter;

identifying each confidence level of character-recognition by attempting to character-recognize from the reduced-resolution version of the image the at least one character object based on each set of the at least one parameter; and

selecting the at least one character-recognition parameter based on the confidence levels identified.

61 3. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 2, wherein said selecting step comprises selecting the at least one character-recognition parameter corresponding to a highest confidence level from a plurality of the confidence levels identified.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 2, wherein said selecting step comprises selecting the at least one character-recognition parameter corresponding to a confidence level exceeding a threshold.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said creating step creates the reduced-resolution version of the image by calculating an average of at least one value of a plurality of pixels of the digitized representation of the image.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

judging whether a confidence level of character recognition by said character-recognizing step is acceptable; and

repeating said identifying step and said character-recognizing step if the confidence level is not acceptable.

19 8. (Previously Presented) A computer program product comprising a computer useable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein for recognizing at least one object in a digitized representation of an image, the computer program product comprising computer readable program code devices configured to:

receive the digitized representation of the image, the representation having a first resolution;

create a reduced-resolution version of the image from the digitized representation of the image, the reduced-resolution version of the image having a second resolution lower than the first resolution;

identify at least one character-recognition parameter for character-recognition processing using the reduced resolution version of the image; and

character-recognition process the at least one character object represented in the digitized representation of the image having the first resolution, based on the at least one character-recognition parameter.

9. (Previously Presented) The computer program product according to Claim 8, wherein said computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to identify is further configured to:

provide a plurality of sets of values of at least one parameter;

identify each confidence level of character-recognition by attempting to character-recognize from the reduced-resolution version of the image the at least one character object based on each set of the at least one parameter; and

select the at least one character recognition parameter based on the confidence levels identified.

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10. (Previously Presented) The computer program product according to Claim 9, wherein said computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to select is further configured to select the at least one character-recognition parameter corresponding to a highest confidence level from a plurality of the confidence levels identified.

11. (Previously Presented) The computer program product according to Claim 9, wherein said computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to select is further configured to select the at least one character-recognition parameter corresponding to a confidence level exceeding a threshold.

12. (Previously Presented) The computer program product according to Claim 8, wherein said computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to create is further configured to create the reduced-resolution version of the image by calculating an average of at least one value of a plurality of pixels of the digitized representation of the image.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously Presented) The computer program product according to Claim 8, further comprising computer readable program code devices configured to:
judge whether a confidence level of character recognition is acceptable; and
repeat said identifying step and said character recognition step if the confidence level is not acceptable.

15. (Currently Amended) A system for recognizing objects, the system comprising:

a coupled for receiving a representation of an image having a first resolution, the downsampler for producing and providing at an output a reduced-resolution version of the image responsive to the representation of the image received at the downsampler input, the reduced resolution version of the image having a second resolution lower than the first resolution; and

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a character-recognition engine having a first input coupled to the downsampler output for receiving the reduced-resolution version of the image and a second input coupled to the system input for receiving the representation of the image, the character-recognition engine being constructed to:

identify at least one character-recognition parameter for character-recognition processing using ~~attempt to character-recognize at least one first object in the~~ reduced resolution version of the image received at the first input, ~~at least one time~~ input;

character-recognize at least one second object in the representation of the image received at the second input, based on the at least one character-recognition parameter; and

provide a representation of the at least one object character-recognized at a first output coupled to a system output.

16. (Currently Amended) The system according to Claim 15, ~~further comprising: a parameter selector for selecting and providing at an output a plurality of sets of parameters, each set different from at least one of the other sets; and wherein the~~ character-recognition engine ~~additionally has a third input coupled to the parameter selector output for receiving the plurality of sets of parameters and the character-recognition engine performs the attempt on the~~ identifies the at least one character-recognition parameter by an attempt to character-recognize at least one first object in the reduced resolution version of the image at least one time for each set in a plurality of the sets of parameters ~~received at the third recognition input.~~

17. (Currently Amended) The system according to Claim 16,

wherein the character-recognition engine ~~additionally has a fourth input for receiving an additional set of parameters, and performs character-recognition responsive to the~~ an additional set of parameters; and

wherein the character-recognition engine additionally provides is ~~additionally for providing a recognition confidence level at a second output responsive to said attempt,~~ for each of the at least one times; and

19 wherein the system further comprises a parameter identifier having a first input ~~coupled to the recognition second output~~ for receiving the recognition confidence level for each of the at least one times, and a second input ~~coupled to the parameter-selector output~~ for receiving each set in the plurality of the sets of parameters, the parameter identifier for selecting and providing at an output ~~coupled to the fourth recognition engine input~~ the additional set of parameters responsive to the sets of parameters received at the parameter identifier second input and the recognition confidence level for each of the at least one times received at the parameter identifier first input.

18. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 17, wherein the parameter identifier selects the additional set of parameters additionally responsive to a threshold confidence level.

19. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 17, wherein:

the at least one time comprises a plurality of times; and

b1 the parameter identifier selects the additional set of parameters responsive to
a confidence level for at least one of the at least one times relative to at least one other
confidence level for at least a different of the at least one times.

20. (Cancelled)
